(a) whether the Right to Education Bill which was introduced long back has not been passed, so far;

(b) if so, what are the main reasons for the delay;

(c) whether any objections have been raised by various parties; and

(d) if so, by when a final decision for passing the Bill in this regard is likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Bill, 2008, to put into effect the Fundamental Right to free and compulsory education to all children in the age group of six to fourteen years has not yet been introduced in the Parliament.

(b) to (d) Does not arise.

New institutes for higher education

†1423. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:
DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an approval to-start new institutes to impart higher technical education in the country is pending with the All India Council for Technical Education for consideration;

(b) if so, the total number of institutes from which applications were received for consideration till September, 2008;

(c) the number of institutes to which approval was given by the Council in the year 2006 and 2007; and

(d) by when the applications, presently under consideration, are likely to be disposed of?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (d) As per information furnished by the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE), 1970 applications have been received by AICTE for establishment of new technical institutions for the block period 2008-11. Out of these, 1206 institutions have been approved up to 31.08.2008. The applications for approval are received round the year. Applications received by 31st December in a particular year are disposed off by 30th June of the subsequent year. Applications received after 31st December are disposed of in the next academic year as and when the requisite norms are met. 336 new institutions were given approval for the year 2006-2007 and 635 new institutions were given approval for the year 2007-2008.

Reservation in private educational institutions

1424. SHRI P.R. RAJAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is considering reservation for OBCs in private educational institutions;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.